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LOUISVILLE MAN CHARGED WITH TRANSPORTING AND RECEIVING SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIALS INVOLVING MINORS

– Internet Investigation originated in London, England

LOUISVILLE, KY - A federal grand jury in Louisville returned an Indictment against **William Mark Corum**, age 40, of Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, on charges of transporting, receiving, and possessing child pornography, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky announced today.

The Indictment alleges that on or about May 10, 2007, Corum transported and received in interstate commerce, that is over the internet via a computer, a visual depiction, the production of which involved the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

The Indictment further charges that on or about August 23, 2007, Corum possessed visual depictions that have been shipped in interstate commerce, that is over the internet via a computer, the production of which involved the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

An affidavit filed with a criminal complaint which preceded the Indictment stated that on or about May 23, 2007, London, England, Metropolitan Police identified and arrested an individual for using Google Hello to distribute indecent images of children and attempting to incite a child under thirteen to commit a sexual act. In an interview, the individual admitted to

having approximately 2,500 indecent images on his computer. The individual also admitted chatting with a large number of people via Hello and having received and distributed images to/from them. The age of the children were from six to thirteen years old.

On August 23, 2007 ICE Agents conducted a preliminary forensic examination of a computer seized from William Mark Corum and found 50 images of minors aged 7-13 posing nude and/or engaging in sexually explicit acts. Three images found on William Mark Corum's computer were as follows:

1. 1176918388080.jpg - A nude Asian female aged approximately 7 - 13 years old on a bed on her back being anally penetrated with what appears to be a pen. The focal point of the image is the child's genitalia and pubic region.
2. 1 (31).jpg - A nude Asian female aged approximately 7 - 13 years old being vaginally penetrated by an adult male penis. The focal point of the image is the child's genitalia and pubic region.
3. Alicia(5).jpg - A nude white female aged approximately 6- 10 years old on a bed, the middle finger of her left hand touching her genitalia and sucking on the index finger of her right hand.

The forensic examination of the individual's computer revealed chat logs between him and another Hello user ("User"). One of the chats recovered is as follows¹:

10 messages were sent during this conversation.

From 10/05/2007 11:41:40 to 10/05/2007 11:55:01

[User]: hi

¹ An asterisk has been placed next to all application messages that were created by the Hello program during the chat conversation. The spelling is as it appears in the chat log. The date "10/05/2007" is the European date for May 10, 2007.

[The Individual]: hi how are you

[User]: Good

[User]: what u trading?

[The Individual]: very little at moment waiting for pc engineer

[User]: ok

10/05/2007 11:45:50 [The Individual]: Sent 7 files

10/05/2007 11:47:09 [User]: Sent 2 files

[User]: I love asian

10/05/2007 11:55:01 unknown: [User] logged off.

7 images were successfully sent by [The Individual]

2 images were successfully sent by [User]

During the chat conversation on May 10, 2007 the User sent two images of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct, specifically minors under the age of eighteen exposing their genitalia. The following is the description of two images that were sent:

(1) 82848_2497328LIY_122_551lo.jpg - A nude white female aged approximately 6- 10 years old on a bed on her hands and knees looking back at the camera exposing her genitalia. The focal point of the image is the child's genitalia and pubic region.

(2) - 10 yrcunt.jpg - A nude white female aged approximately 6 - 10 years old sitting down with her legs spread open and using her hands to spread her genitalia. The focal point of the image is the child's genitalia and pubic region.

In addition, the User received images of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct, specifically minors under the age of eighteen exposing their genitalia. Among the images which had been received were the following;

(1) 21.jpg - A nude white female aged approximately 6- 10 years old posed on a bed with her legs spread, exposing her genitalia. The focal point of the image is the child's genitalia and pubic region.

(2) LS-PICS-9.jpg - A nude white female aged approximately 6- 10 years old sitting with her legs spread, exposing her genitalia. The focal point of the image is the child's genitalia and pubic region.

The Agent also submitted the screen name for the User to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). NCMEC records indicate that there have been fifteen reports involving the User's screen name and child pornography and child erotica.

On August 23, 2007, ICE Agents executed a federal search warrant at Corum's residence 40241 and seized two computers, a wireless router, electronic storage media, and two digital cameras. During the search warrant, ICE agents conducted an interview of William Mark Corum. During the interview, William Mark Corum advised that he owned two computers with internet access at his residence. Corum stated that one computer is located in an upstairs living room and the other computer is located in the basement. Corum admitted that he primarily used the computer located in the basement for his internet activity. Corum stated that he used Google "Hello" on the computer located in the basement and confirmed that he utilized the User's Google screen name for internet chat and for sharing photographs. Corum further stated that he had received and sent child pornographic images utilizing the Google "Hello" forum on the internet. When shown a copy of the Google chat log dated May 10, 2007, Corum stated that "It looked familiar." Corum further stated that he last accessed Google "Hello" on August 22, 2007 and estimated his collection of child pornography at approximately 1000 images.

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are 50 years imprisonment,

a \$750,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of up to life; and the minimum potential penalties are 5 years imprisonment.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Madison Sewell and it was investigated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the London Metropolitan Police. Corum is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on September 18, 2007 at 9:30 a.m., in Louisville, Kentucky.

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The indictment of a person by a Grand Jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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